



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Director of Children and Family Services

At its meeting held October 28, 2003, the Board took the following action:

28-A

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Molina and Antonovich:

“There are currently over 800 children under the supervision of the Department of Children and Family Services who are in foster care and are waiting for a loving, adoptive home. There are thousands of additional children, not living with relatives, who are in long term foster care without a plan for permanency. These children could benefit from an adoptive family. Older children, teenagers, sibling groups and children with special medical, developmental, or emotional needs are included in this population. There are an insufficient number of approved, prospective adoptive parents willing and able to provide a permanent home for these children.

“There is a demonstrated need to expand, modify and enhance recruitment strategies to identify and develop more adoptive families for this target group of children. This endeavor is particularly important because we know that the best chance for a child to become a successful and productive adult is to become part of a stable, permanent, and loving family.”

Genevieve Clavreul, Yvonne Michelle Autry, Warren Williams, Robert Myers, and Merritt Holloway addressed the Board.

(Continued on Page 2)

28-A (Continued)

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Molina, unanimously carried, the Board instructed the Director of Children and Family Services to:

1. Enhance the Department's efforts to locate and develop adoptive homes;
2. Expand the Department's adoption recruitment strategies on behalf of the children who are waiting for permanent homes in Los Angeles County, to include:
 - Assessing the consolidation of adoption and foster care recruitment, including blending available funding and providing joint outreach for resource families for all children needing out-of-home care;
 - Revamping the orientation and training of prospective caregivers, utilizing a more flexible and user-friendly structure;
 - Making full use of adoption websites by photo listing waiting children;
 - Exploring and facilitate more creative adoption recruitment and matching events, including the expanded use of targeted recruitment for hard to place children;
 - Expanding community information sharing and education regarding adoption, including the consideration of Board-sponsored Adoption Forums;
 - Collaborating with faith-based and community partners, including other private and public adoption agencies;
 - Accessing and pursuing additional print, radio, and television media opportunities;
 - Actively pursuing grants and contracts focused on the recruitment of hard to place children;
 - Engaging parents who have previously adopted to participate in recruitment and outreach activities;

(Continued on Page 3)

28-A (Continued)

- Developing and implementing a Request For Proposals for a computerized system to support expediting the matching of children with approved adoptive families; and
3. Report back to the Board within 60 days to outline the progress made toward said goals.

4102803-28-A

Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor

Chief Administrative Officer

County Counsel